



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FIFTH, FINAL CO-DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO 27 YEARS IN METH CONSPIRACY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the fifth and final co-defendant in a Kansas City metropolitan methamphetamine conspiracy was sentenced in federal court today.

**John P. Long**, 32, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to 27 years in federal prison without parole. The court previously ordered **Long** to pay \$768,000 to the United States, representing the cash proceeds that he received in exchange for the distribution of more than 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine.

On June 17, 2003, **Long** pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute in excess of 50 grams of methamphetamine. By pleading guilty, **Long** admitted that he purchased methamphetamine from Mexican sources of supply as well as methamphetamine manufactured by other members of the conspiracy, which he then supplied to numerous individuals in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

**Long** is the fifth and final co-defendant to be sentenced for his role in the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. All five co-defendants were charged in the same indictment on Nov. 6, 2002.

\* **Rodney W. Schump**, 49, of Blue Springs, Mo., was sentenced on Nov. 14, 2003, to eight years and one month in federal prison without parole. **Schump** pleaded guilty on June 16, 2003, to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. By pleading guilty, **Schump** admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine on Sept. 21, 2002.

\* **Stuart R. Bryan**, 31, of Raytown, Mo., was sentenced no Nov. 13, 2003, to 15 years and eight months in federal prison without parole. **Bryan** pleaded guilty to his involvement in the meth case on May 30, 2003. By pleading guilty, **Bryan** admitted that he conspired with others to

distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2002, and Oct. 17, 2002.

\* **Kevin L. Cowan**, 34, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced on Nov. 14, 2003, to seven years in federal prison without parole. On March 27, 2003, **Cowan** pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. He admitted that he conspired to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2002, and Oct. 17, 2002.

\* **Tiffany Lee Gunnels**, 24, of Independence, Mo., was sentenced on Nov. 21, 2003, to seven years in federal prison without parole. On March 11, 2003, **Gunnels** pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2002, and Oct. 17, 2002.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. The case was investigated by the Lee's Summit, Mo., Police Department, the Kansas City, Mo., Metropolitan Drug Task Force, the Independence, Mo., Police Department, and the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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